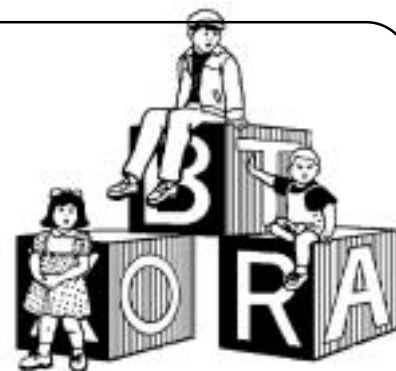


# Building Blocks to Safety

*A newsletter for prevention of childhood injuries*



 North Dakota Department of Health      Summer 2005      Division of Injury Prevention and Control

## Art Supply Safety

Art and craft time can be fun and educational and can result in treasures that are saved for years. But some art supplies and art activities can be unsafe unless caregivers teach children how to use them properly and follow simple guidelines for selecting and storing materials.

### Look for Proper Labels

Improved labeling makes it easier to choose acceptable children's art materials. Always choose materials designed specifically for children, with labels that clearly indicate they are nontoxic. The Art and Creative Materials Institute (ACMI) is a nonprofit trade association of manufacturers of art and craft materials. Since 1940, ACMI has conducted a certification program in which product formulas are analyzed and certified by the ACMI, then labeled appropriately as either nontoxic and safe, or toxic and potentially harmful.

ACMI certification also ensures compliance with state and federal labeling regulations. Products bearing the AP (Approved Product) seal of the ACMI are certified nontoxic. In cases where a product may be used with young children, AP certified nontoxic products are the safest. Products bearing the CL (Caution Label) seal of the Art and Creative Materials Institute contain ingredients that are toxic or hazardous. These products are not appropriate for use with young children. Many products have labels that say a product is nontoxic but unless they also have a label showing that they are certified, these can be misleading. They may not pose an immediate risk of poisoning if

ingested, inhaled or absorbed by the skin, but there may be dangers associated with long-term use. If you have any questions about a product, contact the manufacturer to find out what substances are used in the products and if they are safe for children.

### Choose Products Carefully

Because drawing and painting are common activities for children, parents and caregivers often assume that all art and craft supplies are safe and appropriate for children. But many products can be dangerous. When choosing products for your children, here are some items to avoid and some suggestions for using products that are safe:

- Avoid instant paper mache, which can contain toxic substances that are easily inhaled. Make paper mache using black and white newspaper and library or white paste.
- Avoid permanent, felt-tipped markers that may contain toxic solvents. Use water-based markers only.
- Avoid adhesives that are not water-based, such as rubber cement or solvent-based glues. Use polyvinyl acetate (PVA) white glue, which is the safest for children.
- Avoid organic solvents or solvent-containing products; aerosol spray cans or air brushes; products that can stain the skin or clothing or cannot be washed out of clothing; and irritants or corrosive chemicals such as acids, alkalis and bleach.

Continued on next page

## Art Supply Safety (continued)

### Follow These Safety Precautions

Art and craft time can be relaxing and encourages children to express themselves in new ways. By following a few simple safety precautions, you and your children can enjoy your creativity safely.

- Do not eat or drink while using art and craft materials.
- Always thoroughly clean after use—wash the children's hands, your own hands and your supplies. The clean-up area should not be used for food preparation.
- Never use products for skin painting or food preparation unless the product is specifically indicated for that use.
- Do not transfer your art materials to other containers. Always keep them in the original packaging, which includes ingredient and safety information.
- Provide appropriate supervision when children are using materials that are sharp or that could be ingested.

*Information for this article was written by Kathy Lampman and the ACMI.*

## Personal Flotation Devices for Children

When buying a personal flotation device (PFD) for your child, check for:

- Coast Guard approved label.
- A snug fit. Check weight and size on the label and try the personal flotation device (PFD) on your child. Pick up your child by the shoulders of the PFD; the child's chin and ears won't slip through a proper fit.
- Head support for younger children. A well-designed PFD will support the child's head when the child is in the water.
- A strap between the legs for younger children. This is a good feature because it helps prevent the vest from coming off.
- Comfort and appearance. This is especially important for teens, who are less likely to wear a PFD.



## Bratz Scooters Recalled

The CPSC and Jurong Dumar Bicycle Inc. are recalling about 300,000 Bratz™ Stylin' Scooters™. The wheels of the scooter can break or become damaged, and users of the scooters can fall and suffer injuries.



The product is a non-motorized, two-wheeled scooter with a folding hinge and an adjustable handlebar. The scooter platform is purple with a bright pink Bratz logo on the top surface. Scooters contain information identifying the product as item no. 266563, with a date of manufacture prior to July 2004. The ID number can be located either in the area directly beneath the scooter platform or at the bottom of the scooter near the rear wheel.

The scooters were sold at toy and discount chain stores nationwide from September 2003 through November 2004. Consumers should stop using the scooter immediately and contact the company at 800.222.4685 for a refund or a replacement scooter.

Visit the following websites for more information about product safety and injury prevention:

[www.cpsc.gov](http://www.cpsc.gov)  
[www.ndhealth.gov](http://www.ndhealth.gov)

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# Infant Toys Recalled



The CPSC and Wal-Mart Stores are recalling about 55,000 Reef Rocker Infant Toys. The seam on the plastic balls can separate, releasing the small toy inside and posing a choking hazard to young children.

The Reef Rocker Toys are floor toys. The toy's water-filled dome and four toy balls have colorful sea creatures inside. Lights and music are activated when the toy is shaken.

Wal-Mart stores sold the toy nationwide from May 2004 through January 2005. Consumers should take the toy away from children immediately and return it to their nearest Wal-Mart store for a full refund. For more information about this recall, consumers can call Wal-Mart at 800.925.6278.

# Trampolines Recalled

CPSC and Jumpking Inc. are recalling 1 million trampolines and about 300,000 "FunRing" enclosures sold separately and with Jumpking trampolines. Welds on the frame of these trampolines can break during use, resulting in falls and possible injuries. Additionally, the mounting brackets of the FunRing enclosures have sharp edges, which can cause lacerations.

Jumpking has received 47 reports of one or more welds breaking on these trampolines. This resulted in 21 reports of a variety of injuries, including a concussion; head, neck and back injuries; a broken arm; sprains; lacerations; and bruises. The firm also received 12 reports of other incidents, including nine reports of serious lacerations when children came into contact with the sharp edges of the enclosure brackets.

The recall includes 14-foot and 15-foot Jumpking trampolines sold separately and with FunRing enclosures. The brand name "Jumpking, Inc." is written on a warning label wrapped around a leg of the trampoline.



The FunRing enclosures have an arched design where the vertical poles are connected by arches at the top. The trampolines and enclosures were manufactured in the U.S. and China.

The trampolines with enclosures were sold at discount, department and toy stores nationwide and in Canada from July 1999 through December 2003. Consumers should stop using trampolines and/or enclosures and contact Jumpking at 866.302.8669 to receive free repair kits.

# Cribs Recalled

The CPSC and Delta Enterprise Corp are recalling 10,000 Portable Cribs for repair. The crib slats can separate from the headboard, posing an entrapment risk to young children. In addition, children can fall through the slat opening.



The cribs are made of wood and were sold in three finishes; natural, cherry and white. Model numbers 4464-1 (white), 4464-2 (natural) and 4464-4 (cherry) and the word "Taiwan" are printed on the mattress pad support board.

The cribs were sold at juvenile furniture stores nationwide from January 2004 through February 2005. Consumers should stop using the crib immediately and contact Delta Enterprise Corp. at 877.660.3777 to arrange for two free replacement headboards.

# Carriers Recalled

The CPSC and Playtex Products are recalling 32,000 Playtex Hip Hammocks. The shoulder strap can detach from the hammock, posing a fall hazard to the baby.

The recalled infant carriers were sold under the name "Playtex Hip Hammock," which is sewn into the front of the carrier. The model number is sewn into the inside panel below the instructions for use. The model numbers are 05300 (Basic Black Hip Hammock), 05301 (Delux Black Hip Hammock) and 05302 (Deluxe Navy Blue Hip Hammock).

The product was sold at juvenile products stores, discount stores nationwide, catalog and Internet sites from June 2004 through February 2005. Consumers should stop using the carrier immediately and contact Playtex Products at 800.533.8231.

# Fishing Poles Unsafe

The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) and W.C. Bradley/Zebco Holdings Inc. are recalling about 1.5 million fishing rods. The paint on the rods of the fishing poles contains lead. Lead is toxic if ingested by young children and can cause adverse health effects.



The recalled fishing poles are brightly colored and feature pictures of the following cartoon characters on the reels: from Nickelodeon's SpongeBob SquarePants® are SpongeBob, Patrick Star and Sandy Cheeks; Nick Jr.'s Dora the Explorer®; Disney's Tigger; and the cast of Nickelodeon's Rocket Power®. "ZEBCO®" and "Floating Catch 'Em Kit™" are written on the handles of these poles with the exception of the Rocket Power poles. The Rocket Power poles have a two-piece rod, were sold with sunglasses, and have "Rocket Power" printed on the rod.

Discount department, sporting good and toy stores nationwide sold the fishing rods from August 2001 through March 2005. Consumers should stop using the recalled fishing poles and contact Zebco at 800.444.5581 for information about receiving a free replacement fishing pole.

# Toddler Beds Recalled

The CPSC and Graco are recalling 1.2 million toddler beds. A child's arm, leg or foot can become entrapped between the slats in the guardrails or footboard. This can result in broken bones, sprains and other injuries to young children. Graco has received reports of 77 entrapments resulting in 13 broken arms and legs, one broken foot, a sprained ankle, and 54 other injuries including bruised, scratched and swollen limbs.

The toddler beds are white plastic and steel with openings between the slats in the guardrails and footboard. The beds were sold under the names "Cozy Toddler Bed," "Glow-in-the-Dark Toddler Bed" and "Classic Toddler Bed." A label on the guardrail or leg contains one of the following model numbers: 8801, 8801WE, 8821, 8824, 8828, 8833, 30066, 34434 or 11030. "Graco" is printed on all the bed's footboards.



The beds were sold at discount, department and juvenile product stores nationwide from February 1994 through March 2001. Consumers should remove the guardrails from the recalled Graco toddler beds immediately and call Graco at 800.837.4404 to receive a free retrofit kit. The kit includes custom-designed mesh coverings that must be attached to the guardrails and footboard to prevent entrapment.

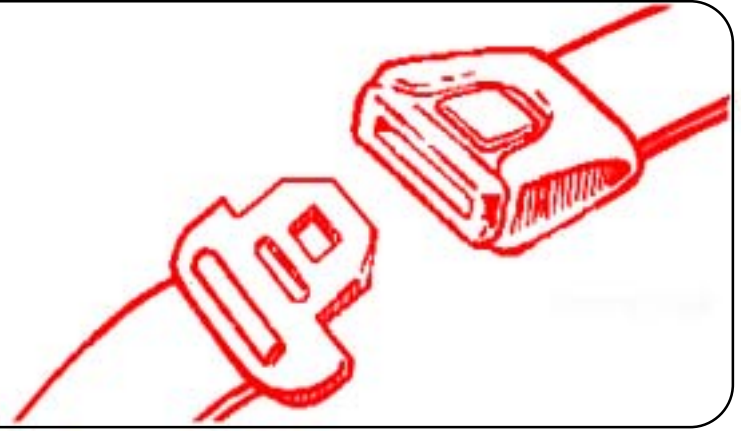
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# The Buckle Update



## Revised Child Passenger Safety Law

The 2005 North Dakota Legislature made some significant changes in the state's child passenger safety law. The new law, which became effective Aug. 1, 2005, requires 4-, 5- and 6-year-old children to use a child restraint (car seat or booster seat). Prior to August 1, these children had the option of using a child restraint or seat belt. The law also adds a \$25 fee (in addition to the one point) for violation. The revised law includes the following provisions:

- Children younger than 7 are required to ride in a child restraint (car seat or booster seat). The restraint must be used correctly-following the manufacturer's instructions.
- A seat belt may be used by children who weigh more than 40 pounds who ride in vehicles with lap-only seat belts or if all lap and shoulder belts are used by other occupants. (This is because booster seats require both a lap and shoulder belt for correct use).
- Children ages 7 through 17 must be properly secured in a seat belt or child restraint (car seat or booster seat).
- The law applies to all seating positions-front seat and back.
- The driver is responsible for ensuring that all occupants younger than 18 are buckled up in the appropriate restraint.
- The penalty for violation is \$25 and one point against the license of the driver. The law is a primary enforcement violation.

## Choosing and Using Booster Seats

A booster seat is a child restraint system made of a firm cushion of foam or plastic. The booster seat lifts the child up in the car to improve the position and angle of the shoulder belt. Booster seats have hooks or arms to keep the lap belt low on the child's hips and thighs. Many include a shoulder belt guide or comfort clip that can be used, if needed, to pull the shoulder belt down so it crosses the center of the shoulder and chest.

There are two types of booster seats generally classified as backless or high-back boosters. Some high-back models have a removable back with an adjustable headrest.



Backless boosters are lightweight and less expensive, which makes them convenient for carpooling. They work well as long as the child's head is supported by the vehicle seatback.

High-back boosters provide head and neck support and should be used if the vehicle has low seatbacks. They also provide support for a sleeping child.

Both types of booster seats must be used with a lap and shoulder belt. Booster seats should never be used with just a lap belt.

Some booster seats allow use by children who weigh as little as 30 pounds. However, child passenger safety advocates recommend that children weigh 40 pounds before graduating to a booster seat. The safest protection for children who weigh less than 40 pounds is a car seat with an internal harness.

## Britax Announces Recall of Child Restraints



Britax Child Safety Inc. is conducting a recall of four models of child restraints that may not comply with safety regulations. The affected Britax models are Marathon (E9L06), Husky (E9L30), Wizard (E9L07) and Snug Seat/Traveler Plus (E9L32).

The recall includes the entire production of these models through July 23, 2004.

Extensive testing has determined that under certain circumstances, the adjuster strap may slip within the metal buckle that controls the tightness of the shoulder harness and may allow the harness to loosen.

Britax is providing consumers with a kit enabling them to fix the problem by replacing the adjuster strap. The kit can be obtained by calling Britax at 800.683.2045 or by visiting the Britax website at [www.britaxusa.com](http://www.britaxusa.com).

## Combia Avatar Seat Recalled

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration and Combi USA announce the recall of the Avatar (Model 8100) convertible child restraint for the entire production manufactured from November 2003 through May 2004.

When used in the rear-facing mode using the LATCH attachment system, the Avatar seat could detach from the lower anchorage, resulting in injury or death.

Until the LATCH belt assembly is replaced, the Avatar seat is safe to use with the vehicle belts, but should not be used with the LATCH system.

Consumers should contact Combi at 800.992.6624 or visit their website at [www.combi-intl.com](http://www.combi-intl.com) for a LATCH repair kit.



## Dorel Designer 22 Infant Seats Recalled

Dorel Juvenile Group has recalled about 190,000 Eddie Bauer, Safety 1st and Cosco brand rear-facing infant car seats. The recalled models, made between Aug. 19, 2003, and Oct. 20, 2004, are:

- Eddie Bauer: 22-625 AFD GB1B; 22-625 GLC GB1B; 22-625 EDG GB1B; and 22-625 MAC GB1B
- Safety 1st: 22-325 CMB GB1B; 22-325 VIN GB1B; 22-325 DTA GB1B; and 22-325 TST GB1B
- Cosco: 22-300 JOS GB1B

Dorel has received complaints that the harness on the recalled seats can loosen after the child has been buckled in.

Consumers who have these models should contact Dorel at 800.881.0570 to receive a free repair kit consisting of two harness clips.

